

# CATHOLIC PARISHES OF LYMINGTON, BROCKENHURST & MILFORD-ON-SEA

**Our Lady of Mercy & St Joseph**  
132 High St, Lymington, SO41 9AQ

**St Anne**  
Rhinefield Rd, Brockenhurst, SO42 7SR

**St Francis of Assisi**  
Park Lane, Milford-on-Sea, SO41 0PT

## Parish Contacts:

**Parish Office:** Maryhouse, 132 High Street, Lymington SO41 9AQ. **Telephone:** 01590 676696.

**Parish Priest:** Rev David Adams; **Parish Administrator:** Lisa Thurston. **Email & Newsletter Items:** lymbrock@sky.com.

**Website:** www.nfwp.org.uk; **Parish Blog:** www.lymrcchurch.blogspot.com. **Registered Charity No:** 246871/2

**School:** Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Primary School, Ramley Rd, Pennington, 01590 672711. **Head of School:** Nanette Allies

**Chairs of Parish Pastoral Councils:** Mike Reynolds, Lymington; Henry Mellor, Brockenhurst; Anthony Kirke, Milford on Sea

**Parish Safeguarding Representative:** Cathy Pickles (Lym); Susan McCabe (Brock); Liz White (Mil).

**PA to Pastoral Co Ordinator & Health & Safety Co ordinator :** Linda Guilding; **Health & Safety Reps St Francis:** Colin Stack & John

Parry . **For the Sacrament of the Sick or Holy Communion to the Sick or housebound:** Contact the parish office.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation:

See opposite page  
for special times this  
Advent.

## Masses & Services for the Week: 8<sup>th</sup> December - 16<sup>th</sup> December

DAY	DATE	TIME	SERVICE	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION	P
SAT	8 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent ( P )	Private Intention (BF)	DMA
SUN	9 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Mass	St Francis	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent ( P )	Chris Nagle RIP & Majorie Donovan RIP Annivs	DMA
SUN	9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mass	Our Lady	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent ( P )	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	9 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm	Baptism	Our Lady	baby George Gordon Crossman	N/A	DMA
SUN	9 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Mass	St Anne	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent ( P )	as per celebrant	PWR
MON	10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	St Swithun Wells, Mem, ( R )	as per celebrant	PWR
TUE	11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
WED	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	W & C	Our Lady	2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent	N/A	
WED	12 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Mass	St Anne	2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent	as per celebrant	DMA
WED	12 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	W & C	St Francis	2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent	N/A	
THU	13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	St Lucy, Mem, ( R )	Joan Fieldhouse RIP & family	DMA
FRI	14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	St John of the Cross, Mem, ( W )	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
SAT	15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent	For those who are unwell	DMA
SAT	15 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent ( P )	Rita Palmer RIP Anniv	PWR
SUN	16 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Mass	St Francis	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent ( P )	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mass	Our Lady	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent ( P )	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	16 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Mass	St Anne	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent ( P )	Joseph Claude & Vera E. Marshall RIP F/M	DMA

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: 24th/25th December - Christmas Offering; 1st January - SPUC White Flower Appeal

### MAKE A SMOOTH PATH TO GOD

What was John doing in the wilderness? He was not a priest, he wasn't in the temple or the local church. He, a layman, was there declaring the forgiveness of sins. He shouldn't have been doing that! He was making it easy for people to get to God! They were supposed to go to the temple (church) and jump through all sorts of hoops, and pay so much money and slaughter this or that animal. Of course, the temple priests made a nice living from all this. In fact the whole economy of Jerusalem was doing very well on it.

So when someone comes along offering free and easy forgiveness everyone flocks to them. Jesus would later criticise the religious controllers for putting heavy burdens on people's shoulders and doing nothing to alleviate the suffering. This is a perennial temptation of religion. It is always dividing the world into the holy and the unholy, the saved and unsaved. It creates more and more laws and conditions and practices which end up being steep hills, twisting, winding and difficult roads, and deep valleys of anxiety, fear and guilt. So instead of making it easy for people to get to God and for God to get to people it becomes one big obstacle course.

All the prophets up to John the Baptist challenge the institutional religion to come back to God in faith, humility, justice and compassion. Most of them were killed because we prefer our securities and vested interests to a living relationship with God.

The church always has the same problem. But it is no good just blaming the Church. We need to see where the root of the problem lies. That root is within ourselves and within our society. The Church is tempted to stray not because it is inherently bad but because it accepts all too easily the ways of the world. These ways are our ways too. They are usually the things we take for granted – the value judgments, the prejudices, the self-interested point of view, the dependence on everything outside (money, pleasure, addictions, status, popularity) to make up for the emptiness within. The emptiness is within not because God is not with us or in us but because we are living spiritually in a place that has no room for God. Our idols demand absolute subservience and will not tolerate rivals.

So this is the rub - the way to God is made straight, level, clear, fast, multi-laned, safe and easy so that we can journey to God in the here and now. The temptation of the world is to say – Oh well it's all very easy. It can't be worth much so I don't have to bother. I can get on with my life and do my own thing and build my little "tower". This complacency is fatal. All our suffering comes from our alienation from the ground of our being which is God. All our problems arise from the neglect, exploitation and manipulation of forces of fear, hatred, greed and power. We cannot sit back complacently, take God's love for granted and do nothing. The forces of the world are inherently destructive, divisive and despotic. In this messy, far from ideal world we have to let the light of the Good News shine and begin to change things. O you Christians – sing your hymns, say your prayers and have your churches – just don't try to change anything! (DMA)

### A LITTLE TOUCH OF KINDNESS

A little touch of kindness woke me up,  
"Hello, how are you? Anything you need?"  
Another came in with a steaming cup  
Of tea. Another, softly said that she'd  
Brought me Holy Communion with candle light;  
Another brought me Cauliflower cheese  
And Pasta, freshly cooked, for my delight;  
And many messages that sought my ease.  
I did not think that I was so much loved  
Or missed, and by so many people too,  
But by your welcome I so wrong was proved,  
And all your kindnesses which helped me through.  
To all of you who played a healing part,  
I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

R B 4.12.18

Ros Brundret would like to say thank you to all those who supported her following her little accident some weeks ago. She has now fully recovered.

## St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

**Anniversaries this week:** Elisabeth Plympton (10<sup>th</sup>), A. Lyons, Vera May Slocombe, Paul Walter Edward Murphy, David Wearne (14<sup>th</sup>), Lawrence Fee (15<sup>th</sup>)

**Sick & Housebound:** Joan Lloyd, Marjorie Horton, Gill Boddington, Sarah Bell, Alison Doubleday, Margaret Langford, Sean McVeigh, Sarah Nicholls & Hilary Sendall.

**BREXIT PRAYER:** On Tuesday 11th. December All Saints Church in Milford is holding special hour of prayer from 12 noon -1.00pm the focus of which will be asking God for a peaceful and just outcome for the BREXIT proposals to be discussed in Parliament that day. Whether you are a 'remainer' or a 'brexiteer' our country needs God's blessing and guidance at this special time. All are welcome to attend.

**YOUR TREASURED THOUGHTS:** just a reminder, as mentioned during the pastoral council's AGM presentation, please let Helen have, before Christmas, a sentence or two on what it is you treasure about our parish. She will then draw it all together, and show you in January, ready for the Bishop to take home with him, after his February visitation. Thank you.

**ADVENT MEMORIAL TREE:** As Advent is now upon us and we begin to prepare for the great feast of the birth of Jesus, it is a time to remember family and friends wherever they may be, especially those who may no longer be with us. From this Sunday there will be a small Tree of Remembrance at the back of the church and we would invite you to add the names of all those who have died that you would like to call to mind and include in our parish prayers. Please write their names on a 'bauble' and attach it to the tree so that your loved ones will be present in all our thoughts as we pray together for a peaceful and joyful Christmas.

## St Anne, Brockenhurst

**Anniversaries this week:** Jessica McNaughton-Smith (11<sup>th</sup>), Phylis Bailey (13<sup>th</sup>)

**Sick and Housebound:** Please keep Deacon Hilary and Anna Hubbard in your prayers

**Fr Quarmby's Masses:** For the week commencing 10th December: 10 am Monday, Thursday and Saturday; 8 am Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** is offered every Saturday after Mass, 10.30 to 11 am.

**New Forest Basics Bank Appeal:** As we head towards Christmas, the NFBB is experiencing a massive increase in requests for help from the agencies who refer individuals and families in difficulty to them. There will be a basket at the back of the church to collect food items throughout Advent and we ask you to give as generously as you can. There is a list of most needed items on the board in the porch. Alternatively, you may prefer to make a financial donation directly to the NFBB. Your help and support is deeply appreciated.

**Christmas Day Lunch** will be served at St Saviours' Church Hall. This is open to anyone who would like to share this special meal in the company of others. All are welcome. Tickets £10 each. Please see the notice on the board in the porch for more details. If you know of anyone who might like to attend, please pass on the information.

**100 Club:** The winner of the £30 prize in November was Linda Reardon with number 37. Congratulations Linda! Anyone wishing to join the 100 Club please phone Anne on 624265.

**Christmas Flowers** We will be taking a collection for Christmas flowers at the end of Mass next Sunday, 16th December.

**Brockenhurst Choir** will perform Handel's Messiah this Sunday, 9th December at St Saviour's Church at 7.0pm. Details on the board in the porch.

**Any items for the newsletter to [anna@boylemellor.co.uk](mailto:anna@boylemellor.co.uk) to arrive by Thursday morning**

## All Parishes

**CAFOD WORLD GIFTS – the true spirit of Christmas Giving:** Give a gift that will change a life. There are gifts for every budget from Happy Queen Bee at £4 to Help a Refugee child at £46. Each CAFOD World gift has been chosen for the real and lasting difference it makes to families living in developing countries. Catalogues are available at church or you can buy online at [cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](http://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts)

## Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

**Anniversaries this week:** Dorothy Borrie (8<sup>th</sup>), Ernest James Batson, David Philip Jeffcock, Patrick Manghan (9<sup>th</sup>), Eunice Kelleher (10<sup>th</sup>), Madeleine Garth (11<sup>th</sup>), Marianne Winifred 'Mary' Aylward (12<sup>th</sup>), John Lloyd, Pamela Joan Hoey (13<sup>th</sup>), Anthony John Leahy (14<sup>th</sup>)

**Sick and Housebound:** Ramona Heath-Saunders, Simone Cluett, Concetta Losanno, Terry Iles, Mai Wilson, Den Walker, Brian Choules, Len Harley, Marie Smith, Celine McCay, Mary Norton, Patricia Mate.

**THIS WEEKEND** After 10.30am Mass Sunday 9th Dec (not 8th as advertised last week) **OLMSJ ONLY FIRE WARDENS/WELCOMERS/CAR PARK WARDENS** - please attend a meeting to discuss safety of parishioners attending Christmas services. Thank you.

**CWL:** The next meeting of the CWL is on Tuesday 11th December at 10.30 am at Eileen Rayner's House, 4 Court Close for coffee and mince pies.

**FUND-RAISING:** Our next fund-raising event will be on Saturday 29th December when we will be raising money to help provide a prayer area for Our Lady & St Joseph's Primary School. Do come along for a cake or a bowl of soup and support our local school.

**CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH 2018 – a reminder that on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> December** We would be grateful for any suitable gifts ( or appropriate donation ) for the Christmas Tree. (Value £2.00 to £4.00) for our guests to take home wrapped and Labelled for a Lady or Gentleman. **Thank you, Mike and Ann Reynolds 01590 679084**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION:** Application forms for this year's programme are available at the back of church. Please complete the form and return it to Cathy Pickles **BEFORE** 6th January. Details of the dates and times are on the form.

**100 Club** - the final draw of the year, including the star prize of £70, will be held on this Sunday 9th December after Mass in Joseph's Place. We are accepting annual subscriptions of £15 per number for 2019, and envelopes will be available at the back of the church. Many thanks to all our 100 Club members for their contribution to church funds.

**THE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL** is taking place at St Thomas Church until 11<sup>th</sup> Dec which is open from 10 am every day with refreshments until 4pm. Our Children's Liturgy Group have again submitted a tree - look for the hearts! The Liturgy Group wish to express their thanks to Bernadetta for her hard work and artistic input.

**Dates for the Diary: Parish AGM** will be held on Sunday, 20th January 2019 in church, immediately after the 10.30am Mass. It will include reports from the PPC & Finance Committees.

## All Parishes

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:** First Masses of Christmas – Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> Dec, Christmas Eve – 5pm Children's Mass at OLMSJ, 7.30pm – Carols then 8pm Mass at OLMSJ; Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> Dec, Christmas Day Masses - 9am at St Francis, 10am at St Anne's, 10.30am at OLMSJ.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession):** At OLMSJ on Sat, 15<sup>th</sup> Dec, 10am-11am & 7pm-8pm; At St Anne's on Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Dec, 10.30am – 11.00am. At OLMSJ on Wed, 19<sup>th</sup> Dec from 6pm – 7pm. At OLMSJ on Sat, 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec, 10am-11am & 7pm-8pm; At St Anne's on Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec, 10.30am – 11.00am.

**CALLING ALL FAMILIES:** will you be at a loose end between Christmas & New Year on Saturday, 29th December?. If you are out & about in Lymington why not call into Joseph's Place where parishioners will be busy serving homemade cake with tea/coffee from 9.30am-12pm and a soup lunch from 12pm - 2pm. All profits will go to pay for the outdoor prayer garden at Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic School.

**Christmas means warmth and happiness to some but**



**loneliness and emptiness to others. "Peace on earth and good will to all" we sing but please do more this year by reserving a space in your heart for those needy folk within our midst.**